

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 21-42 remain pending in this application. No claims have been canceled or added.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and safe receipt of the priority document.

INTERVIEW

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for conducting an interview with the undersigned on October 25, 2005. The present amendment to the claims was discussed during the interview.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 21-24, 26-35 and 38-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nagata et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0014956). These rejections are traversed as follows.

Claim 25 has been amended to be in independent form with some minor changes which were discussed with the Examiner during the interview. The Examiner is requested to review these changes to confirm the patentability of claim 25. Claims 21-24 and 26-37 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 25.

25. Claims 21-24 and 26-37 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 25. Claims 38-42 have been amended to incorporate the allowable limitation of claim 25 and are therefore also believed to be patentable. The Examiner is also requested to review the language of these claims to confirm their patentability.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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